General Education Board one million dollars, provided the entire sum of five million three hundred thousand dollars shall be raised. Further pledges of individuals have been made to the amount of seven hundred thousand dollars. Thus two million seven hundred thousand dollars have already been secured. Two million six hundred thousand dollars remain to be secured and in the near future a campaign will be initiated to complete the fund.

In speaking of this announcement, which is probably the most significant that has ever been made in connection with higher medical education in Chicago, President Harry Pratt Judson says: "The medical plans which have just been announced represent many years of hoping and working and dreaming. These plans, we think, will not merely be, when carried out, a great addition to the resources and power of the university, but will render a very valuable service to Chicago, and to the cause of medical teaching and investigation in the entire country."

A later announcement is just made that half a million dollars toward this new medical fund for the University of Chicago has been given by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago. Mr. Rosenwald, who is a trustee of the university and donor of the new Julius Rosenwald Hall devoted to the work of geology and geography, is one of the university's most generous and loyal friends; and Mrs. Rosenwald, who shares in this great gift, is widely known for her practical and constant sympathy with many movements for social and artistic advancement in Chicago.

At the meeting of the board of trustees of the university on November 14, the following committee was named to conduct the campaign for funds: President Harry Pratt Judson, chairman; Adolphus C. Bartlett, Dr. Frank Billings, Thomas E. Donnelley, Andrew MacLeish, Martin A. Ryerson, Julius Rosenwald, Robert L. Scott and Harold H. Swift.

THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

PRESIDENT WILSON announced recently the appointment of the members of the advisory commission to be associated with the Council of National Defence created by congress at the last session. The seven men named are: Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; Dr. Franklin H. Martin, of Chicago; Howard E. Coffin, of Detroit; Bernard Baruch, of New York; Dr. Hollis Godfrey, of Philadelphia, and Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago.

A statement by the President in connection with the announcement follows:

The Council of National Defence has been created because the congress has realized that the country is best prepared for war when thoroughly prepared for peace. From an economic point of view there is now very little difference between the machinery required for commercial efficiency and that required for military purposes. In both cases the whole industrial mechanism must be organized in the most effective way.

Upon this conception of the national welfare the council is organized in the words of the act "for the creation of relations which will render possible in time of need the immediate concentration and utilization of the resources of the nation."

The organization of the council likewise opens up a new and direct channel of communication and cooperation between business and scientific men and all departments of the government, and it is hoped that it will in addition become a rallying point for civic bodies working for the national defence.

The council's chief functions are:

1. The coordination of all forms of transportation and the development of means of transportation to meet the military, industrial and commercial needs of the nation.

2. The extension of the industrial mobilization work of the committee on industrial preparedness of the naval consulting board. Complete information as to our present manufacturing and producing facilities adaptable to many-sided uses of modern warfare will be procured, analyzed and made use of.

One of the objects of the council will be to inform American manufacturers as to the part which they can and must play in national emergency. It is empowered to establish at once and maintain through subordinate bodies of specially qualified persons an auxiliary organization composed of men of the best creative and administrative capacity, capable of mobilizing to the utmost the resources of the country.

The personnel of the council's advisory members, appointed without regard to party, marks the entrance of the non-partisan engineer and professional man into American governmental affairs on a wider scale than ever before. It is responsive to the increased demand for and need of business organization in public matters and for the presence there of the best specialists in their respective fields.

In the present instance the time of some of the

members of the advisory board could not be purchased. They serve the government without remuneration, efficiency being their sole object and Americanism their only motive.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

The University of Iowa at the last commencement bestowed the degree of doctor of laws upon Professor J. C. Arthur, emeritus professor of botany in Purdue University. In the presentation made by Mr. D. D. Murphy, president of the State Board of Education, the services of Dr. Arthur to pure and applied science were reviewed. Special emphasis was placed on his contributions to agriculture and horticulture in the study of plant diseases. This work began when, as the first botanist in an American experiment station, pear blight was investigated, and may be said to have culminated in the discovery of formaldehyde as a fungicide, especially for diseases of potatoes and grains. Studies on the relation of weeds to effective cultivation resulted in new methods for their control and extermination. His work in physiological botany, and his fundamental studies in mycology, have given occasion for the introduction of new technical terms, which have entered into general use. Other matters pertaining to the long and eminent services of Dr. Arthur were touched upon by President Macbride in conferring the degree.

Alumni of the department of geology and geography of the University of Chicago have presented to the university a portrait of Professor Rollin D. Salisbury, head of the department of geography and dean of the Ogden School of Science. The portrait, recently finished by Ralph Clarkson, the Chicago painter, is now at the Art Institute and will later have a permanent place in the new Julius Rosenwald Hall at the University of Chicago.

Professor M. Pasch, who holds the chair of mathematics at the University of Giessen, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate on August 21, 1915. On this occasion the University of Breslau renewed his diploma.

The Bakhuis Roozeboom medal has been awarded to Professor Schreinemakers, professor of inorganic and physical chemistry in the University of Leyden.

Dr. M. O. Forster, who was elected as a prospective Unionist candidate for parliament, has resigned. He is engaged in assisting the state-aided organization for producing dyes, work which absorbs all his time, and in the letter of resignation he says that the energy and resources of those occupied in the British dye industry must, if possible, be increased on the advent of peace.

We learn from *Nature* that the Chinese government has appointed as the head of a geological survey, Dr. J. G. Andersson, formerly chief of the Swedish Geological Survey, and with him already are Dr. Tegengren and Professor U. Nyström. Dr. T. G. Halle, assistant in the paleobotanical department of the Riksmuseum at Stockholm, is to travel in China for one year, mainly in the interests of his own department, for which he will collect paleozoic plants, but partly for the Chinese government, to which he will report on the age and character of the coal-seams inspected, and for which a duplicate series of fossils will be provided after their determination. A young Chinese geologist will accompany Dr. Halle, and will be trained by him as a paleobotanist.

Mr. Julius Lemkowitz, during the past year computer in the Yerkes Observatory, has gone to Princeton as observatory assistant.

Harvard University has granted a leave of absence for the second half of the academic year, 1916–17, to Professor W. C. Sabine, Hollis professor of mathematics and natural philosophy.

Mr. Roy Chapman Andrews, in charge of the American Museum's Asiatic zoological expedition, reports that nearly two hundred mammals and four hundred birds have been collected in the vicinity of Foochow, in the province of Fu-kien. Mr. Edmund Heller has joined the expedition, which on August 10 was on the way to Yunnanfu, to make collections in Yunnan Province.

Professor W. B. Scott, of Princeton University, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Relations of South America to other Conti-